

IN THE CLAIMS

The pending claims including amended claims are as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A turbomachine comprising:
at least one cavity having a cross-section with a shape selected from the group consisting of an annular shape and a ring-segment-shape[[,]]; and
at least one means for inducing and maintaining a forced flow with at least a tangentially oriented velocity component, the means being arranged inside the cavity and the means comprising:
~~at least one ejector that is operable with~~ a first ejector disposed proximate a lowest geodetic level of the cavity and a first extraction point disposed proximate a highest geodetic level of the cavity, the first ejector delivering motive fluid extracted from the cavity at the first extraction point;
a second ejector disposed proximate the highest geodetic level of the cavity and a second extraction point disposed proximate the lowest geodetic level of the cavity, the second ejector delivering motive fluid extracted from the cavity at the second extraction point;
wherein the first extraction point is disposed upstream of the second ejector relative to blowout direction thereof, the second extraction point is disposed upstream of the first ejector relative to blowout direction thereof, and wherein the blowout direction is
directions are oriented such that at least a portion of outflow impulse is oriented in a circumferential direction of the cavity.
2. (Original) The turbomachine of claim 1, wherein the means are configured and arranged to induce a forced flow that is inclined in an axial direction relative to a circumferential direction by an inclination angle of less than 30°.
3. (Original) The turbomachine of claim 2, wherein the inclination angle is less than 10°.
4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The turbomachine of claim 1, wherein at ~~least two~~ the first and second ejectors ~~oriented in the same blowout direction~~ are arranged equidistantly in the circumferential direction of the cavity.

6. (Currently amended) The turbomachine of claim 1, wherein the ~~cavity comprises an extraction point, the~~ first extraction point ~~being~~ is in fluid communication with a suction side of a fan, and a pressure side of said fan ~~being~~ is in fluid communication with the first ejector.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The turbomachine of claim 1, wherein the cavity is formed between an inner casing and an outer casing of the turbomachine.

10. (Original) The turbomachine of claim 9, wherein the inner casing is selected from the group consisting of a combustor plenum and a combustor wall of a gas turbine, and wherein the outer casing is an outer shell of the gas turbine.

11. (Original) The turbomachine of claim 1, further comprising openings for drawing off fluid from the cavity and disposed at circumferentially symmetrical positions in the cavity.

12. (Original) The turbomachine of claim 11, wherein the openings are selected from the group consisting of an annular gap, a plurality of ring-segment-shaped gaps, holes, and combinations thereof, and wherein the openings are disposed in a circumferentially symmetrical manner.

13. (Original) The turbomachine of claim 11, wherein the openings are in fluid communication with a hot-gas path of a gas turbine.

14. (Currently amended) A method for operating a turbomachine comprising at least one cavity having a cross-section with a shape selected from the group

consisting of an annular shape and a ring-segment-shape, and at least one means for inducing and maintaining a forced flow with at least a tangentially oriented velocity component, the means being arranged inside the cavity, the method comprising:

forcing a flow through the cavity at standstill of the turbomachine by a motive fluid ~~emerging from at least one ejector~~, the flow being tangentially oriented at least with one velocity component, wherein:

a first ejector delivers motive fluid extracted from the cavity at a first extraction point with the first ejector being disposed proximate a lowest geodetic level of the cavity and the first extraction point being disposed proximate a highest geodetic level of the cavity;

a second ejector delivers motive fluid extracted from the cavity at a second extraction point with the second ejector being disposed proximate the highest geodetic level of the cavity and the second extraction point being disposed proximate the lowest geodetic level of the cavity;

the first extraction point is disposed upstream of the second ejector relative to blowout direction thereof, and the second extraction point is disposed upstream of the first ejector relative to blowout direction thereof;

motive fluid delivered by the first ejector has a higher temperature than motive fluid delivered by the second ejector; and

the blowout directions are oriented such that at least a portion of outflow impulse is oriented in a circumferential direction of the cavity.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising shutting down the turbomachine, and forcing the flow during a cooling period following shutdown.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising discharging fluid into a hot-gas path of a gas turbine through openings.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, ~~further comprising extracting wherein a closed volume of motive fluid for the ejectors from the cavity, thus essentially circulating a closed volume~~ essentially is circulated by the ejectors.

19. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the flow is a circumferential flow.

20. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the flow is a helical flow with a helix angle less than 30°.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the helix angle is less than 10°.

22. (Currently amended) A turbomachine comprising:
at least one cavity having a cross-section with a shape selected from the group consisting of an annular shape and a ring-segment-shape;
~~at least one ejector~~ first and second ejectors for inducing and maintaining a forced flow with at least a tangentially oriented velocity component, the ~~at least one ejector~~ first and second ejectors being arranged inside the cavity and being operable with a motive fluid;
wherein the first ejector is disposed proximate a lowest geodetic level of the cavity and a first extraction point is disposed proximate a highest geodetic level of the cavity, the first ejector delivering motive fluid extracted from the cavity at the first extraction point;
wherein the second ejector is disposed proximate the highest geodetic level of the cavity and a second extraction point is disposed proximate the lowest geodetic level of the cavity, the second ejector delivering motive fluid extracted from the cavity at the second extraction point;
wherein the first extraction point is disposed upstream of the second ejector relative to blowout direction thereof, and the second extraction point is disposed upstream of the first ejector relative to blowout direction thereof; and
wherein ~~the blowout direction is~~ directions are oriented such that at least a portion of outflow impulse is oriented in a circumferential direction of the cavity.

23. (Currently amended) A method for operating a turbomachine comprising at least one cavity having a cross-section with a shape selected from the group consisting of an annular shape and a ring-segment-shape, and ~~at least one ejector~~ first and second ejectors for inducing and maintaining a forced flow with at least a tangentially

oriented velocity component, the ~~at least one ejector~~ first and second ejectors being arranged inside the cavity, the method comprising:

forcing a flow through the cavity at standstill of the turbomachine by a motive fluid emerging from the ~~at least one ejector~~ first and second ejectors, the flow being tangentially oriented at least with one velocity component, wherein:

the first ejector delivers motive fluid extracted from the cavity at a first extraction point with the first ejector being disposed proximate a lowest geodetic level of the cavity and the first extraction point being disposed proximate a highest geodetic level of the cavity;

the second ejector delivers motive fluid extracted from the cavity at a second extraction point with the second ejector being disposed proximate the highest geodetic level of the cavity and the second extraction point being disposed proximate the lowest geodetic level of the cavity;

the first extraction point is disposed upstream of the second ejector relative to blowout direction thereof, and the second extraction point is disposed upstream of the first ejector relative to blowout direction thereof;

motive fluid delivered by the first ejector has a higher temperature than motive fluid delivered by the second ejector; and

the blowout directions are oriented such that at least a portion of outflow impulse is oriented in a circumferential direction of the cavity.